

FARM DEPARTMENT.

Don't let careless expenditure make a sieve of your purse. Buy wisely and increase your money holdings by investing in W. S. S.

Valuable Stock—Valuable Offspring.

In several counties of North Carolina more pure-bred live stock has been purchased during the past year at the higher prices which have prevailed than in any other year. Hogs were never so high, and yet hundreds of boys bought pure-bred pigs at high prices with the expectation of selling their offspring. Through the county agents many hundreds of pigs bred by the boys have been sold at good prices, and this is stimulating the extension of pure-bred hogs—U. S. Department of Agriculture.

One Cow Equals Five

A New Jersey boy was influenced to buy a high-grade cow for \$155. The cow on freshening gave 24 quarts of milk and kept it up for a long period. The father owned 5 cows, the average cows for the neighborhood. They were fresh in the spring. Their product did not equal the product of the cow owned by the son—five times the labor and five times the feed, in comparison with one good cow—U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Minor Troubles" of a County Agent

A county agent in one of the Eastern States believes in diversified activities. He reports as follows for one month's work: "Burnt up 90 gallons of gasoline, 5 quarts of oil, had 6 punctures and one blow-out. Trailer broke away and upset load; pig fell out of the car and was caught with difficulty, afterwards jumped from sty and was run over by an auto. Buried three pigs with all the profits and lost \$28 besides. Tore best trousers getting over pasture fence; broke watch crystal loading corn planter; but outside of a few minor troubles had a very satisfactory month's work."

Heavy Horses Still Scarce

While there is a surplus of light horses on the farms of the United States, there is still a notable deficiency in heavy, desirable draft horses, say horsemen of the United States Department of Agriculture. Last year, they say, there was a tremendous decrease in mares bred, but during the spring of 1919 a very large percentage of good mares were bred, which is expected largely to meet the future demand for horses of the better type.

Endless-Chain Pig Club.

Twenty pigs were distributed recently to the members of the boys' and girls' pig club of Whitley County, Ind., to form the second link in their endless-chain pig club. One of the conditions under which a pig club member in the county receives a club pig is that the member shall return two pigs from the original gilt. These pigs are then distributed to new club members and thus the membership increases.

Spiced Vinegar Gives Good Pickle Flavor

Spiced vinegar is used in making pickles, for flavoring gravies, potato salad, and similar dishes. For pickling it is especially valuable, as the flavor from spiced vinegar is the same all through the pickles, while if pepper, cloves, and dill are added directly to the pickles the flavor is more concentrated at the places where these spices are put. The herbs from which the spiced vinegar is made may be used as a garnish by mixing them in the pickle.

An excellent spiced vinegar is made by filling a wide-mouthed bottle or a fruit jar to within two inches of the top with spiced plants of different kinds, such as slices of horse-radish and onions, umbels of dill, ripe seed of white mustard and celery, green seed of nasturtiums, fine stems and leaves of tarragon, basil, and sweet marjoram. A pod of red pepper may also be added. The bottle or jar is then filled with vinegar, heated to 140 degrees F., corked or sealed and left for about three weeks. At the end of the three weeks, strain the vinegar and fill in small bottles. Cork and seal with melted paraffin or sealing wax.

Fall Feeding of Dairy Cows.

The wise dairyman will feed liberally during the fall months. Cows which are not well fed at this time will go into the winter thin in flesh and with reduced milk flow. It will be expensive and largely in vain to attempt to bring them back to normal flow after they go on winter rations.

It will pay to begin feeding silage and hay early. The extra feed given at this time will not bring good, immediate returns, but affect the milk flow for the whole year by putting the cow in good condition to go thru the winter months. Cows which go into the winter in good vitality, and with undiminished milk flow, are the ones which will make most economi-

cal use of the high-priced feed given them during that period. Keep up the milk flow during the fall months by proper feeding. It will pay.

Cold, uncomfortable cows will not make economical use of feed. Their highly developed nervous systems are very susceptible to sudden changes in temperature. This should be borne in mind in the fall, when the first cold rains and cold winds come. Protection from these will prevent the reduction in milk flow which they always cause. Do not waste feed by letting cows stand out in cold wind and rain.

Hydrogen peroxide is a useful chemical for removing stains. Mix with a small amount of household ammonia at the time of using. By this method the oxygen is set free and attacks the stain more readily. Apply with a medicine dropper, glass rod, or a sponge. Rinse the fabric carefully after using.

How Many Hens To Keep.

The size of the flock which can be most efficiently kept will depend first of all upon the space available, and, secondly, upon the amount of table scraps or other waste which is available for feed. It is a mistake to try to overstock the available space. Better results will be obtained from a few hens in a small yard than from a larger number. The back-yard poultry flock rarely will consist of over 20 or 25 hens, and in many cases of not more than 8 or 10, or occasionally of only 3 or 4. For a flock of 20 to 25 hens a space of not less than 25 by 30 ft. should be available for a yard. Where less space is available, the size of the flock should be reduced, allowing on the average 20 to 30 square feet per bird. A few hens are sometimes kept successfully with a smaller yard allowance than this, but if the space is available a yard of the size indicated should be used.

Prosperity in Hog-Harvesting.

Practically every farmer can plant and cultivate a larger acreage than he can harvest.

When the harvest season comes he is overworked.

Also, he has to depend on transient labor which, many times, is bothersome and unreliable.

And, after all, a considerable portion of the crop may have to go to waste because it can not be gathered in time.

The hog, helped out by cattle and sheep when practicable, is an excellent labor equalizer.

He harvests the corn crop more efficiently than the transient farm hand can be expected to do it—and does not have to be superintended by the owner of the farm.

He is equally efficient in harvesting rye, or clover, or alfalfa, or soy beans, or cow peas.

When the farmer makes use of the co-operative quality of the hog he has more time for essential tasks, more time to look out for his own health and happiness and that of his family, makes more money on the year's operations, and has better ground for the next year's crops.

The farm that depends on transient laborers as harvesters is likely to grow poorer year by year. The farm that uses hogs as harvesters is certain to grow more fertile with every crop.

The Certificate Valuable

"The certificate of an accredited herd I find of great value and assistance in a sale of animals from my herd, and from my experience, I am certain that one who does not have his herd cleaned up, so far as tuberculosis is concerned, is making a blunder that will cost him in dollars and cents far in excess of any immediate loss he may sustain in having his herd cleaned up."—M. D. Munn, St. Paul, Minn.

In gardens where the available land is limited in extent, currants and gooseberries may well be planted among the tree fruits and left there permanently. The shade of the trees protects the fruits from the sun, and the foliage is usually healthier in such locations than when grown where it is freely exposed to the sun.

New Farmer Is Coming.

The new farmer is coming. The old farmer who learned everything by hard knocks and bitter experience, will go. The old farmer, who did an enormous amount of heavy work for many hours each day, has almost passed. In his place the new farmer, who will save his muscles with machinery and who will get an education other than one of hard knocks, will come.

It may be that this new farmer will not be able to put away any more money than the old farmer, but he will most certainly have a better chance to get pleasure and happiness out of his life. Machinery will keep his face from being turned continually toward the ground and his auto-

will save him from spending hours jogging to and from town for supplies. He will not be chained to his soil because of heavy toil and the great distances he must travel to transact business, for machinery will be at hand to travel and work for him.

This new farmer is coming. In fact, he has been on the way for some time. The shortage of labor and the advancing price of crops and stock have helped his coming. He must have machinery to overcome the lack of labor and high prices have given him the cash with which to buy. The new farmer is coming.

Hold That Soil.

Rye sown this autumn on fields to be cultivated next season, will hold the soil during the washing winter and spring rains. Besides holding valuable soil, the rye will also add an enormous amount of rotting vegetation to the soil. The rapidly rotting rye and roots lighten clay soils allowing surplus water to drain out of them but retain the moisture necessary for crops during dry weather. Rye and other green manures should be used extensively this season when land and crops are both very valuable.

Give The Child a Pet.

The boy's love for his dog and the girl's devotion to her cat show the child's desire for a pet of some kind. Every child loves a pet and is anxious to have one of its own. The reason the boy gets a dog and the girl has her cat for a pet is that neither the cat or the dog has any value and so "the kid can have 'em if they want 'em."

The farmer who is farsighted, will provide his child with an animal to pet which will be worth rearing and will at the same time educate the youngster. The pig, poultry, sheep and calf clubs are successful because they allow the child to follow its own inclination in owning a pet. This passion for a pet is plainly shown in the loving and constant care given the animal by its youthful owner. Many of these animals owned by club members have been handled so constantly that they will answer to their names.

The farmer who allows his growing boys and girls to have stock of their own, is educating his children in the feeding and care of live stock. If he allows these children to keep and breed their animals he will be allowing them to understand sex problems from a rational angle. At the same time a well-developed love for the breeding of fine stock will do much toward keeping the children happy and contented on the farm. Give the child a pet.

Inspecting Egg Shipments To Enforce Federal Law.

Interstate shipments of eggs are being watched closely during the hot summer months by the Federal food inspectors of the Department of Agriculture in order that appropriate action may be taken when such shipments violate the law.

Shipments containing eggs which have yolks stuck to the shell, moldy eggs, black spots, mixed rots, addled eggs, and any other eggs which are filthy, decomposed, or putrid are in violation of the law.

Careful candling before shipment will enable dealers to eliminate the bad eggs. The elimination of the spoiled or partially spoiled eggs before shipment not only removes the hazard of violating Federal and State food laws, but is economical in that it saves shipping charges on eggs likely to be rejected at place of receipt. A number of States have laws or regulations specifically requiring the candling of all eggs placed on sale.

Directions as to how to candle eggs as well as information regarding the best methods of packing, shipping, and storing eggs, will be sent upon request to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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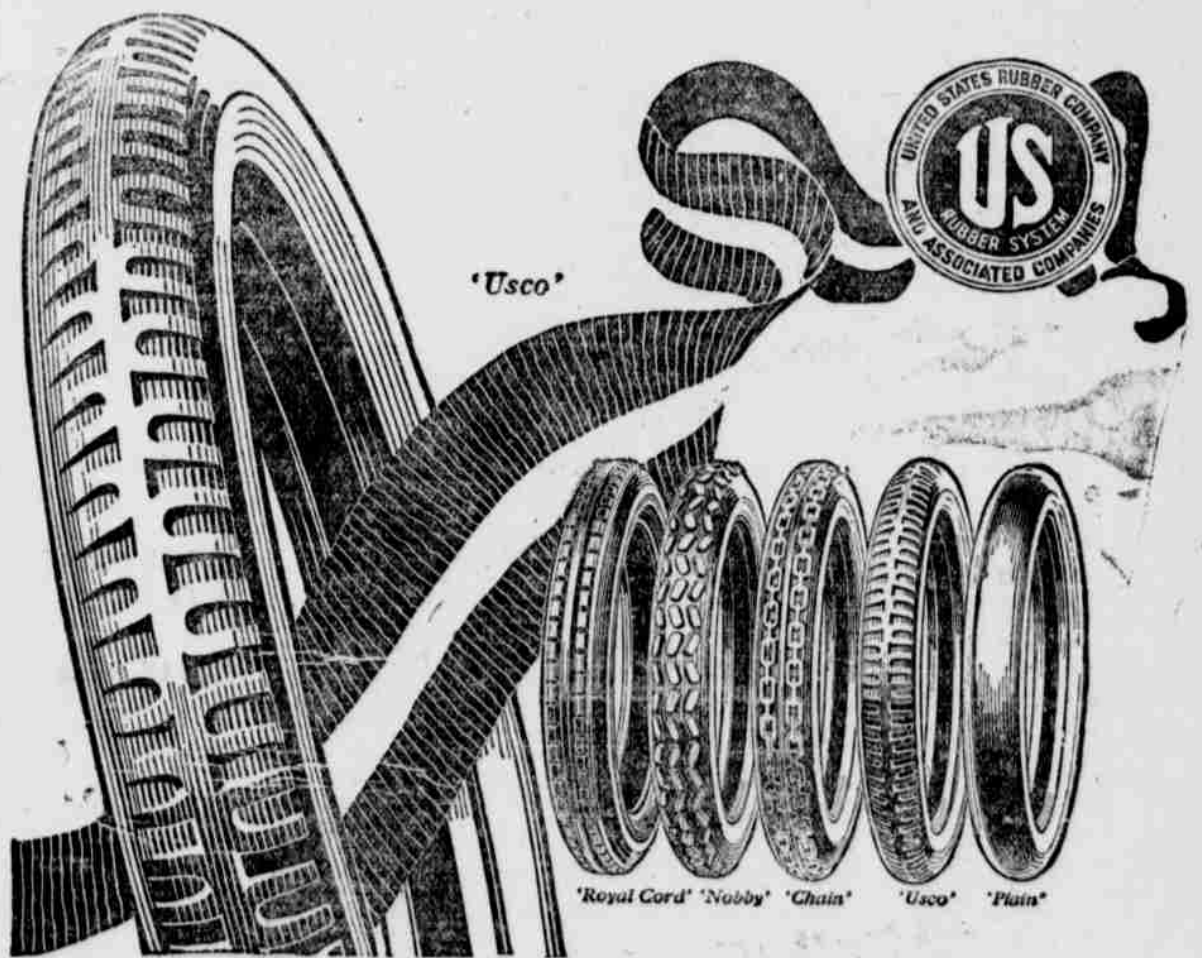
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